



RE-REVIEW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE981 eld NO.: J. C.

ORIGIN: NEA SUBJECT: Richards Mission

INFO DCL REP

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RPTD INFO: American Consulate Asmara, Eritrea, Ethiopia

TO:

American Embassy, Addis Ababa.

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CA-6880 February 25, 1957

American Consulate Asmara, Eritrea, Ethiopia

CA-6278 February 6, 1957, being repeated Asmara.

The President has appointed former Congressman James P. Richards as a Special Assistant with the personal rank of Ambassador and has requested him to undertake a mission to the Middle East to explain the President's Middle East proposals to the countries of that general area. Because of the extended nature of the trip, the Mission is planning to make a rest stop at Asmara while enroute from Khartoum to Amman.

Although the itinerary is subject to change, the present schedule calls for arrival at Asmara at 1700 local time April 11 from Khartoum and departure at 1100 local time April 14 for Amman. The Consulate will be kept advised of changes in the itinerary.

The Consulate is requested to make arrangements for the Mission's stop at Asmara. The visit will be entirely informal and the Mission wishes to avoid completely any transaction of official business or any official entertainment. Reservations should be made at a suitable hotel and local transportation provided to meet the aircraft upon arrival. It is expected that the Mission will consist of seven persons for whom single rooms should be provided if possible and two secretaries requiring a double room. There will be ten members of the plane crew. The Consulate will be informed subsequently of any changes in the composition of the Mission.

The Mission will be carrying highly classified material in a foot locker. The Consulate should make arrangements to take this material into custody upon the arrival of the party, and to store it during the stop at Asmara.

Information regarding the arrangements made for the stop at Asmara should be forwarded so as to reach the Mission at Jidda where it is expected to arrive April 2.

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CLEARANCES: